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Raised Bill # 6524

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In regards to the above reference bill I think that in the interest of public safety that the General statute regarding the licensing and duties of Building Officials and Assistant Building Officials is ambiguous and flawed.

I am a Multi State Licensed Master Electrician who has worked for over 30 years in the electrical trade as an Apprentice, Journeyman, Foreman, General Foreman and Project Manager for projects ranging from wiring residential dwellings to 100 million dollar commercial projects including but not limited to Nuclear power, oil refineries, Solar PV, Hospitals, High-Rise buildings, etc. I also have my own contracting company in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

I was hired approx. 5 years ago as an Electrical Inspector for the City of Stamford for which I had to sit for a CT. State Electrical Inspector exam. This is typical for all trades such as Plumbing, Framing, Mechanical, Structural etc. To sit for this my electrical license exam I had to prove my experience in the electrical trade e.g. 4-5 years of State Dept of Labor apprenticeship and 7000 hours of on the job training, pass a CT Journeyman (E2) license exam, possess said license for 2 years and then pass the Unlimited Contractor exam (E1) - 7 years in total. This entitles me to inspect *only* electrical installations. I believe from my 30+ years experience am quite proficient in and feel comfortable doing electrical inspections but yet find that I must keep educated of the constant advances in the electrical industry. This *alone* is a full time job.

After 3 years of working for the City I decided to apply for my Assistant Building Official license. For anyone to sit for this exam you only had to prove 3 years of general knowledge in the construction trade. This means I could have been a laborer, bricklayer, electrician, mason etc. Once I passed this exam I was deemed qualified by State of CT. statutes as an A.B.O to be able to inspect Construction Framing, Mechanical Systems to include fuel gas code, HVAC, Plumbing, Electrical etc. How does this possibly make sense? Why do we need all this credentials to obtain a Trade Inspector license but yet anyone can pass an A.B.O. exam and be able to inspect ALL TRADES. Would I want a Plumbing Inspector looking at the electrical system of the nursing home my parents were in? Just the NFPA requirements on electrical are complex. Now this same guy is inspecting not only electrical but plumbing, mechanical, ADA, building, etc. Would I want a Electrical Inspector looking at the Medical Gas system in my local hospital? Have you seen the code and NFPA requirements for this? The one stop shopping is compromising the safety of all and this has been the norm for years. Not to mention the time frame allotted for these inspections. That is another issue in total.

I take my profession very seriously and I think in the interest of public safety these issues should be addressed. I appreciate you looking at this bill and making others aware the seriousness of this matter. I will be available to you should you need any assistance on this matter.

I am in complete and utter support of this important bill and will be available at any time to help bring this bill to fruition.

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Assistant Building Official

Multi-State Licensed Master Electrician

Building and Electrical Code Consultant /Instructor

IAEI Certified Electrical Inspector

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